(iv) Juvenile Department

224. *Work under the Children Acts.*—The provisions of the Bombay Children Act, 1948 were in force in the four districts of Belgaum, Bijapur, Dharwar and North Kanara during the year. The Madras Children Act, 1920 was in force in the districts of Bellary and South Kanara and in Kollegal Taluk of Mysore District. The Mysore Children Act, 1943 was not in force during the year. There was no Children Act in force in the Coorg District.

225. Destitute, neglected, victimised and delinquent children under the age of 16 years were given protection under the provisions of the Children Act. The Act being a comprehensive legislation gives protection and constructive treatment to needy cases of children whether found begging or exploited by adults and parents or for those cases of children particularly girls under 16 years of age found in moral danger. In addition, parents and guardians could also seek protection under the Act for the treatment of children found uncontrollable.

226. A child brought under the perview of the Act has to pass through the following stages:—

(a) Remand Home, (b) Certified School, (c) Aftercare, and (d) Follow-up studies.

227. The juvenile courts are the special courts established under the Children Act and in the merged areas of the Bombay Karnatak there were seven such courts functioning under the Bombay Children Act, 1948. Juvenile Courts

228. The number of children produced before the juvenile courts during the year was 875; including the cases pending over from the previous year the figure comes to 1,206. There were no juvenile courts in the old Mysore area as the Mysore Children Act was not brought into force during the year.

229. A Remand Home is a place of safety as a place of observation for the personal study of the children where all facilities are provided for the development of the child's personality. It is a place where children coming under the provisions of the Children Act are housed temporarily pending final disposal of their cases by the juvenile courts. Remand Homes

LAW, ORDER AND JUSTICE

230. There were seven Remand Homes (all in the Bombay-Karanatak area) in the State. Government have opened three more Remand Homes at Bangalore, Mangalore and Bellary during the year and these are run by the Government, while the Remand Homes in the Bombay area are run by the respective District Probation and After-care Associations. There were 340 children on remand in the Remand Homes.

Certified Schools and Fit Person Institutions

231. The next link in the chain of the life of a child for this purpose is Certified School or Fit Person Institution wherein the treatment programme outlined in Remand Homes is given effect to. Certified Schools established or recognised by the Government are meant for reception of children committed by the juvenile courts under the Children Act. In addition to the existing Government Certified School at Hubli and Junior Certified School at Bellary, two more Certified Schools, one at Khanapur, Belgaum District and the other at Bangalore were opened during the year. There were 110 children in the Certified School, Hubli and 393 in the Certified School, Bellary at the end of the year.

232. In addition to the Certified Schools and Remand Homes, there were a number of private institutions, *viz.* Fit Person Institutions recognised under the Children Act, for admission of children committed by the juvenile courts. Grants-in-aid to these institutions are paid by Government in the form of maintenance charges. There were 508 children accommodated in all the Fit Person Institutions including the Remand Homes which are also used as Fit Person Institutions.

233. A committee consisting of officials and non-officials appointed by Government considers the cases of children and recommends suitable cases for release on licence taking into consideration the arrangement made for their future rehabilitation. Needy cases of boys who are destitute and homeless are also accommodated in the After-care Hostels and are helped to rehabilitate properly in life.

After Care and Release on Licence

234. Work under the Probation of Offenders Act:— The Act applies to those persons who are offenders and who are above 16 years of age and who by reason of their home

conditions, character and antecedents are fit to be given a chance to show improvement on their release on probation and under the supervision of a Probation Officer. Under the Act, the young offender is spared harmful experience of jail and is given a chance to improve his behaviour in his own home surroundings.

235. The Bombay Probation of Offenders Act was in force in Dharwar, Bijapur, Belgaum and North Kanara Districts. There were two After-care Hostels established under the Bombay Probation of Offenders Act at Belgaum and Bijapur. Government have opened one more After-care Hostel at Hubli during the year. The number of cases referred for enquiry under the Probation of Offenders Act during the year was 63 and the number disposed of was 30 and the number of cases sent to Borstal School was 5.

236. The Madras Probation of Offenders Act was in operation in the Districts of Bellary and South Kanara. Thirtynine cases were referred for enquiries under the Act during the year, of which nine cases were disposed of.

287. Work under the Habitual Offenders Restriction Act, 1947.—The Bombay Habitual Offenders Restriction Act was in force in the four districts of the Bombay Karnatak area. Out of the two Industrial and Agricultural Settlements established under this Act at Bijapur and Khanapur in Belgaum District, the settlement at Khanapur had to be closed due to sudden decrease in strength. The inmates of this institution have been transferred to the settlement at Bijapur and the buildings at Khanapur were utilised for the Certified School.

238. There were 94 settlers in both the settlements at the end of the year. Of these, 45 settlers left the settlement either on discharge or on release on licence or absconding, etc,.

239. Work under the Social and Moral Hygiene Programme :—The work under the Social and Moral Hygiene Programme which is a Centrally aided scheme was recently entrusted to the Social Welfare Department. Under this scheme, Government have sanctioned the establishment of one Rescue Home at Bellary and five Vigilance Shelters at Bangalore, Mangalore, Mysore, Hubli and Bijapur during the II Plan period to provide after-care services and also to be used as Protective Homes

LAW, ORDER AND JUSTICE

under Supression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956.

Conclusion

240. The activities of the Juvenile Department during the year were mainly confined to the Bombay and Madras (Bellary and South Kanara Districts) areas of the State, where the provisions of the different social welfare Acts are in force. Steps were being taken to frame uniform laws applicable to all the areas of the State. With the framing of uniform laws and with the application of the two Central Acts—Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956, and the Probation of Offenders Act, 1958 to this State, it is hoped to achieve considerable progress during the coming years in the sphere of welfare of men, women and children.

(v) Civil Justice

241. *High Court.*—On the last day of the year nine judges were working in the High Court. The jurisdiction of the High Court was the same as in the previous year.

Receipts and Charges

242. The total receipts and charges of the High Court for the year were Rs. 3,00,211-12 (Rs. 2,04,222-12) and Rs. 7,61,865-20 (Rs. 4,77,289-19) respectively.

Regular Appeals

243. The number of Regular Appeals instituted during the year was 340 (183). Out of 1,580 Regular Appeals for disposal, 152 (267) appeals of the aggregate value of Rs. 7,74,079-60 Rs. 12,68,526-80) were disposed of leaving 1,428 (1,240) appeals pending at the end of the year. The average duration of 152 appeals disposed of during the year was 1,248·6 (917·5) days.

Second Appeals

244. The number of Second Appeals instituted during the year was 1,104(710) bringing the total in all including 2,564 pending from the previous year to 3,668. Of these, 534 were disposed of leaving 3,134 appeals pending at the end of the year. The average duration of appeals disposed of was 804·7 (473·1) days.

Miscellaneous Appeals

245. Out of a total of 402 Miscellaneous Appeals, 106 appeals were disposed of during the year.

Civil Revision Petitions

246. Out of a total of 2,807 (1,929) Civil Revision Petitions, 1,264(403) were disposed of during the year.